

REMARKS

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 10-326517 to Takeshi. Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeshi in view of USPN 6,652,109 B2 to Nakamura.

Drawings

It is noted that the Examiner has accepted the drawings as originally filed with this application.

Amended Claims

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claim 1 of this application to clarify that it is the bottom wall of the diffuser board with which the support members are integrally formed. It is believed that the amended claim specifically sets forth each element of Applicant's invention in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, and define subject matter that is patentably distinguishable over the cited prior art, taken individually or in combination.

The amended claims are directed toward: a back light module including, *inter alia*, a lamp case with a diffuser board having a plurality of bottom support members ***formed integral with a bottom wall of the diffuser board*** and respectively stopped at the bottom wall of the lamp case to support the diffuser board against deformation.

Takeshi teaches spacer pins 4 as being integrally formed ***with the housing 3***, as shown in Figures 1-3. It is important to note that neither the figures nor the text cited by the Examiner teach that the spacer pins 4 are integrally formed ***with the light scattering body 2*** (cited by the Examiner as teaching Applicant's "diffuser board"). Instead, Takeshi's Figs. 2 and 3 show the spacer pins 4 as being formed from a different material than the light scattering body 2. As a result, these spacers cannot be said to be integrally formed with the light scattering body 2.

It follows that Takeshi does not teach: a back light module including a lamp case with a diffuser board having a plurality of bottom support members formed integral with a bottom wall of the diffuser board and respectively stopped at the bottom wall of the lamp case to support the diffuser board against deformation.

It is axiomatic in U.S. patent law that, in order for a reference to anticipate a claimed structure, it must clearly disclose each and every feature of the claimed structure. Applicant submits that it is abundantly clear, as discussed above, that Takeshi do not disclose each and every feature of Applicant's amended claims and, therefore, could not possibly anticipate these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Absent a specific showing of these features, Takeshi cannot be said to anticipate any of Applicant's amended claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Nakamura is cited as teaching injection molding and the use of acrylics in forming back light modules. However, Nakamura fails to teach: a back light module including a lamp case with a diffuser board having a plurality of bottom support members formed integral with a bottom wall of the diffuser board and respectively stopped at the bottom wall of the lamp case to support the diffuser board against deformation.

It follows from the above that even if the teachings of Takeshi and Nakamura were combined, as suggested by the Examiner, the resultant combination does not suggest: a back light module including a lamp case with a diffuser board having a plurality of bottom support members formed integral with a bottom wall of the diffuser board and respectively stopped at the bottom wall of the lamp case to support the diffuser board against deformation.

It is also axiomatic in U.S. patent law that, in order for the Examiner to reject claims as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103, the Examiner must first present a *prima facie* case of obviousness, including providing teaching from the art which clearly disclose each and every feature of the claimed structure, as well as a specific motivation or suggestion from the art. Applicant submits that it is abundantly clear, as discussed above, that the references, even when combined, do not disclose each and every feature of Applicant's amended claims and, therefore, could not possibly render these claims obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Absent a specific showing of a *prima facie* case, the combined references cannot be said to render any of Applicant's amended claims unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Furthermore, Applicant submits that neither Takeshi nor Nakamura disclose, or suggest a modification of their specifically disclosed structures that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at Applicant's claimed structure. Applicant hereby respectfully submits that no combination of the cited prior art renders obvious Applicant's amended claims.

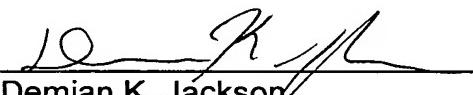
Summary

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Should any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, it is urged that Applicant's local attorney be contacted at the exchange listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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